

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments:
Skilled nursing facility services
Home health agency services

Inpatient rehabilitation services Long-term care hospital services

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Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Skilled nursing facility services

Carol Carter January 14, 2021

Overview of the skilled nursing facility industry in 2019

Providers

About 15,000

Most also provide longterm care

Medicare spending \$27.8 billion

Medicare users

1.5 million4% of FFS beneficiaries

Medicare share of:

Facility days: 9%

Facility revenue: 16%



Summary: SNF payment adequacy indicators in 2019 are positive

Beneficiaries' access to care

- Stable supply
- Volume declines do not reflect adequacy of payments
- High marginal profit (~20%)

Quality of care

 Small improvements in the rates of successful discharge to community and hospitalization

SNFs' access to capital

- Adequate access to capital
- Low total margins (0.6%) reflect lower payments from other payers

Medicare payments and SNFs' costs

- 2019 Medicare margin was 11.3%
- Efficient provider margin in 2019 was 19.2%
- Projected 2021 margin: 10%

Positive

Positive

Positive





Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Home health care services

Evan Christman January 14, 2021

Home health care industry 2019

- \$17.8 billion total Medicare expenditures (FFS)
- Over 11,300 agencies
- 6.1 million episodes for 3.3 million FFS Medicare beneficiaries



Summary: Home health payment adequacy indicators in 2019 are positive

Beneficiaries' access to care

- 99 percent live in aZIP code with atleast one HHAavailable
- Episode volume decreased; unrelated to payment
- Positive marginal profit (18%)

Quality of care

- Rates of successful discharge increased
- Small decline in hospitalizations

Access to capital

- Positive allpayer profit margin (5.9%)
- Large for-profits continue to have access to capital

Medicare payments and HHA costs

- 15.8% Medicare margin in 2019 (efficient provider over 23%)
- Projected margin estimated to equal14% in 2021

Positive

Positive

Positive





Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Inpatient rehabilitation facility services

Jamila Torain January 14, 2021

Overview of the inpatient rehabilitation facility industry, 2019

- 1,152 IRFs
- 25% of IRFs were freestanding, but accounted for half of Medicare discharges
- Average Medicare length of stay = 12.6 days
- FFS Medicare accounted for:
 - About 58 percent of IRFs' discharges
 - 409,000 stays for 363,000 beneficiaries
 - \$8.7 billion total Medicare expenditures (FFS)



Summary: IRF payment adequacy indicators in 2019 are positive

Beneficiaries' access to care

- Capacity appears adequate
- Increase in volume
- High marginal profit
 - > FS: 40%
 - > HB: 19%

Quality of care

Risk-adjusted outcome measures relatively stable since 2015

IRFs' access to capital

- IRFs maintain good access to capital markets
- The all-payer margin for freestanding IRFs is a robust 10.4%

Medicare payments and IRFs' costs

- In 2019, the aggregate Medicare margin was 14.3%
- We project a margin of 16% in 2021

Positive

Positive

Positive





Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Long-term care hospital services

Kathryn Linehan January 14, 2021

Overview of the long-term care hospital industry, 2019

- Medicare fee-for-service
 - Average payment per case: ~\$41,000 (all cases),
 ~\$47,000 (cases meeting the LTCH PPS criteria)
 - Total cases: ~91,000
 - Spending: \$3.7 billion
- Total facilities: 361

Summary: LTCH payment adequacy indicators in 2019 as expected given payment changes

Beneficiaries' access to care

- Occupancy rate steady
- Share of cases meeting criteria increased
- Supply decreased
- Marginal profits adequate

As expected, given changes in payment system

Quality of care

- Stable mortality rates (unadjusted)
- Stable hospitalizations, slight decline in discharge to community (riskadjusted)

Access to capital

- Industry contraction reduced the need for capital
- All-payer margin declined slightly from 2018

Medicare payments and costs

- Medicare margin for LTCHs with a high share of cases meeting the LTCH PPS criteria: 2.9 percent
- Projected 2021 margin: 2 percent

Mixed

As expected, given changes in payment system

